

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please rewrite claims 1 and 3-9 as shown below in the detailed listing of all claims which are, or were, in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A contact device for improving the conductance of an electrical connection consisting of two connectors ~~(21 and 23)~~ in contact with one another ~~essentially~~ comprising a conductive insert placed between the two contact surfaces ~~(22 and 24)~~ of the two conductors ~~(21 and 23)~~ of said connection, said conductive insert ~~consisting of~~ comprising an electrically conductive foam ~~(10)~~ made of one or more materials, with high deformability and porosity in order to reduce the resistance of the connection.

2. (Original) The contact device according to claim 1, in which the current is greater than 1,000 A.

3. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, in which said conductive insert ~~consisting of~~ comprising an electrically conductive foam ~~(10)~~ includes at least a peripheral

seal ~~(14 and 16)~~ creating a hermetic barrier against external damaging agents along the periphery of said conductive insert.

4. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 3, in which said foam ~~is~~ comprises copper foam.

5. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 3, in which said foam ~~is~~ comprises silver-plated copper foam.

6. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 3, in which said foam ~~is~~ comprises silver foam.

7. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ in which said conductive insert is placed between said conductors (~~21 and 23~~) whose surfaces (~~22 and 24~~) are degraded.

8. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 7, in which said seal ~~(14 and 16)~~ is made by depositing an elastomer ~~type~~ sealing product along the periphery of said conductive insert.

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

PATENT

9. (Currently amended) The device according to claim 7, in which said seal ~~(14 and 16)~~ is made by at least a fold on the edge of said conductive insert.